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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Tatar ASSR)	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	School for Tractor and Combine Operators in Tetyushi Rayon	DATE DISTR.	
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CONFIDENTIAL**REPORT NO.**

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COUNTRY USSR (Tatar ASSR)**DATE DISTR.** 15 April 1955**SUBJECT** School for Tractor and Combine Operators in
Tetyushi Rayon**NO. OF PAGES** 2**DATE OF INFORMATION****REFERENCES:**

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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SOURCE

1. The Monastyr School for Tractor and Combine Operators was located on the outskirts of the village of Monastyr (N 55-51, E 32-28) in three one-story, 50 x 15 meter, frame buildings with red metal roofs, surrounded by a wooden fence. Source claimed that the street on which the school was located did not have a name and he could not pinpoint the location further.
2. The school at Monastyr was one of several special schools in Tatar ASSR which were subordinate to the Ministry of Agriculture and which had special six-month courses to train youths to become tractor or combine operators. Students for the schools were selected from among volunteers of each village according to a quota passed on from the ministry through the neighboring MTS to the Selscvet. Upon finishing the course, students were assigned by the MTS to work as combine and tractor operators at a designated kolkhoz. Often, they did not return to the same kolkhoz from which they originally came. The school had about 200 students and eight instructors. It was open only six months of every year, from November to May. During the remainder of the year, the school was closed and both students and instructors worked in the fields. Most students were trained to become tractor operators. This course lasted five months, while the course for combine operators was six months long. Classes were conducted eight hours a day, six days per week, and students were paid 180 rubles per month while attending school. There were no dormitories so that students had to be quartered in and around the village of Monastyr. Monetary compensation was given by the school to home-owners who provided room and board to students. No special scholastic or Party affiliation requirements were needed to attend this school, and less than one-fourth of the student body were Komsomol members.
3. The following principal courses were taught at the school:
 - a. The working principle (ustroystvo) of combines and tractors.
 - b. Repair and maintenance of tractors and combines.

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- c. Disassembly and assembly of tractors and combines.
- d. Operation of tractors and combines.
- e. A course on agrotekhnikum which, according to source, basically included instruction on when and how to plow land and how to sow and harvest various crops.
- f. Political and military training courses. Political instruction sessions were two hours long and were held every other day. The teacher of this course was a woman. Subjects covered in these classes varied from discussion of the history of the Party and general political indoctrination to such topics as the State agricultural system, the collectivization system, and the laws and regulations governing kolkhozy. Military training principally included close-order drill, assembly and disassembly of carbines, and work with dummy hand grenades. Students never received any practice in firing weapons.

4. In addition to classroom work, students were given practical training in the actual operation, assembly, and disassembly of tractors and combines. Several different types of tractors and combines, all in good working order, were maintained at the school for this purpose. These included:

- a. Three caterpillar-type and NATI-type (Nauchno Avtotraktorny Institut) tractors. These were equipped with 50 to 52 indicated-horsepower motors. They ran on kerosene fuel and were produced either at the Stalingrad (STZ tractors) or Kharkov Tractor Plants (KHTZ tractors).
- b. Three KHTZ wheel-type tractors equipped with 30 indicated-horsepower motors utilizing kerosene for fuel.
- c. Two ChTZ wheel-type tractors equipped with 65 indicated-horsepower diesel motors. All of the above types of tractors were in common use on neighboring kolkhozy as late as 1950, although source heard from an MTS mechanic that actual production of these models had been stopped in 1946 because they had been supplanted by newer ones; and, thereafter, only spare parts for the old models were supplied to the MTS.
- d. Three G-shaped (Geobraznyy) Komunar-type combines with 40 to 52 indicated-horsepower motors which ran on gasoline. Third-quality type gasoline, which source stated was less than 65 octane, was utilized to run these combines.

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